

**PRINTING MEDIA AND METHODS EMPLOYING DIGITAL  
WATERMARKING**

**Abstract of the Disclosure**

5        Stationary, or other printable media, is encoded with a digital watermark. The watermark is not conspicuous to a human observer of the media, yet conveys plural bits of auxiliary information when optically scanned and digitally processed. The watermark can be formed by ink-jet printing, or otherwise. The encoded information can be used for various purposes, including authenticating the document as an original, linking to  
10      associated on-line resources, and distinguishing seemingly-identical versions of the same document (document serialization).

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